WELDING CONTESTS

The popularity of Combination, Arc, and Basic Welding contests has grown to the point where the number of welding contestants per school may be limited based on MSU-Northern welding shop capacity.

Schools who wish to enter more than one student in any welding contest are required to rank their contestants (first, second, third, etc.) prior to the state contest. This should be done during your local competition. If welding registration exceeds shop capacity, the contestants with the lowest rankings would have to be dropped. If additional numbers need to be reduced, they would be eliminated by lottery.

EXAMPLE: If the total number of contestants allowed in any one contest area is 40 and we had 30 contestants ranked #1, and 12 contestants ranked #2, and 6 contestants ranked #3, for a total of 48 contestants. The contestants ranked #3 would not be allowed to participate. Contestants ranked #2 would draw lots for the remaining 10 spots.

This would take place after the total registration numbers are counted and before you leave your home town.

If possible, Combination Welding contestants who are eliminated may be able to move to the Arc Welding contest if contestant numbers are under the limit. Some years this may not be an option.

This is the third year we have operated under these rules and so far we have not had to eliminate anyone or use the lottery system. The total number of contestants is limited to 40 students for each contest which equals 120 contestants. Contest chairpersons have determined this to be the maximum number of contestants that can be accommodated.

We are not able to speculate on what will be done until after the registration numbers are counted. If needed, you will be asked for your student rankings. In the future, we may ask for the ranking as part of the registration.

Late welding contest registrations will not be accepted.

Contestants who are late for orientation or late for any welding contest will not be allowed to compete.

WELDING CONTEST MATERIAL LIST

Tools — ALL CONTESTS – Each contestant will bring their own Safety Glasses, Combination Square, Cutting Goggles, Soapstone, Tip Cleaners, Gloves, Pliers, Coveralls, and Welding Helmet.

Materials — To be supplied by each contestant as listed for their contest.

Basic Welding:

Basic Welding Contest will be held at **Havre High School** - 40 Contestants Maximum.

Materials Needed

Mild Steel 4 Pieces 1/8" X 1 ½" X 4"
Mild Steel 4 Pieces ¼" X 1 ½" X 4"
Additional Mild Steel scrap for setting machine.
Student ID numbers should be stamped on all pieces for identification and judging.

Arc Welding:

Arc Welding Contest will be held at **MSU-Northern** - 40 Contestants Maximum

Materials Needed

Mild Steel: 7 Pieces ¼" X 1½ " X 4"
Mild Steel: 2 Pieces 3/8" X 3 X 3" (bevel each piece 30 deg. on one edge, to make a groove with a 60 deg. included angle between the 2 pieces)
Additional Mild Steel scrap for setting machine

Combination Welding:

Combination Welding Contest will be held at **MSU-Northern** – 40 Contestants Max

Materials Needed

Mild Steel: 2 Pieces ¼" X 4" X 5"
" 3 Pieces ¼" X 2" X 5"
Sch. 40 pipe 1 Piece 1" diameter black pipe 2 ½" long
Aluminum 3 Pieces 1/8" X 1½" X 5"
Additional Mild Steel and Aluminum scrap for setting machine

Required materials are to be brought to the contest site at the time scheduled for competition. Combination and Arc Welding – stamping of student ID numbers on contest material for identification and judging will be done at the beginning of each contest (Basic Welding material should be stamped prior to leaving your school).

The contest orientation session will allow for questions about machine settings, etc., but will not include practice. The time block scheduled for the contest includes time for familiarization as well as performance of assigned welds. Interpreting the drawings and laying out the pieces quickly will be important, leaving the maximum time for setting the machines and final welds.

Distributed by:
OPI
Linda McCulloch, Superintendent
Montana Office of Public Instruction
PO Box 202501
Helena, Montana 59620-2501
(406) 444-3095
1-888-231-9393
Fax: (406) 444-2893
www.opi.mt.gov